

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 240 MS 2-13
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 654-2054 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 654-1902 Telephone



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To the Agnews Consumers, Families and Stakeholders:

As the closure of Agnews Developmental Center draws near, the health and safety of each resident remains the Administration's highest priority. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) continues to work closely with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and regional centers to protect the health and well-being of each resident and provide access to necessary services and supports, consistent with each consumer's needs and preferences. The enclosed "Overview" document has been developed to explain how health care and supportive services will be provided in the community.

The transition process from a developmental center to a community living arrangement is developed through the individual program plan (IPP) process, which is overseen by the regional center. The IPP outlines the services and supports that are needed for a successful transition to a community living arrangement. The IPP includes an individual health care plan that identifies how each person's health needs will be addressed. Once the consumer has moved into his or her new home, the regional center continues to work with the consumer to identify service needs, and monitor services and supports. This process ensures a smooth and successful transition to the community, and can help identify any issues with the IPP, including health plan or other service issues.

An important component to a consumer's transition to the community entails development of an individual health care plan that will meet the consumer's unique needs. Through this process, the regional center meets with the consumer and his or her family to outline the consumer's health care needs and services and to address any questions regarding health plan options.

Policies and procedures have been developed to guide how DHCS, DDS, regional centers, and designated health plans will implement the health initiative and how services and supports are provided in the community. These procedures and policies are included in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DHCS and DDS, as well as between regional centers and health plans. The regional center MOUs outline the responsibilities of each regional center and health plan regarding eligibility, authorization, care coordination, behavioral services, education, regional center/health plan coordination, medical records, quality improvement, acute care hospitalization transition, dispute resolution, and resource development. These documents are available at www.dds.ca.gov/agnewsclosure. If you would like a copy these documents mailed to you, please contact Debbie Middleton of DDS at (916) 654-1902.

We look forward to continuing to work with you throughout the closure process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your regional center service coordinator.

Sincerely,


TERRI DELGADILLO
Director

Enclosures

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"